



IN THE SESSIONS COURT, SINDHUDURG, AT-OROS

(Present : S. T. Tripathi, Additional Sessions Judge.)

Cri. Bail Appln. No. 101/2026

Sujay B.

Age 25 years, Occu. Education,

R/o. Alvatta, Timmsandra,

Post - Shriniwaspura,

State- Karnataka 583216

....Applicant/ Accused 8

Versus

State of Maharashtra through

Kankavali Police Station,

Tal.Kankavali, Dist. Sindhudurg.Respondent.

Appearance :

Ld. Adv. Shri. A. A. Shaikh for Applicant/ Accused 8.

Ld. A. P. P. Shri. R. V. Desai for Respondent/State.

ORDER BELOW EXH.1

This is an application for pre-arrest bail under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 in C. R. No.299/2025, registered with Kankavali Police Station in connection with the offences punishable under Sections 103(1), 61(2), 238 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. The learned advocate of the accused has filed affidavit of accused on 20.07.2026 in compliance of direction given by the Hon'ble Apex Court in case of Zeba Khan vs. State of Uttar Pradesh & others, in Cri. Appeal No. 825/2026 [Arising out of SLP (Cri.)No.12669 of 2025.

Thereafter it was adjourned for final argument at the request of learned advocate for the accused on 22.07.2026 and today it is kept for the order.

2. Learned Counsel Shri. A. A. Shaikh for the applicant submits that applicant has not committed an offence and false F. I. R. has been lodged against him. He has no criminal antecedent. He has reputation in society and if he is taken in custody his reputation will malign. Applicant is a young boy of 25 years and is pursuing Bachelor of Physiotherapy in Columbia College of Physiotherapy, Bengaluru. His attendance is necessary for his educational curriculum. If he is arrested his academic career will be seriously affected. He has got fixed and permanent place of residence. Investigation is complete and Sessions Case No. 07/2026 is pending. No prima facie case is made out against the applicant. No recovery is pending. Therefore his custodial interrogation is not necessary. He is ready to co-operate in investigation and will not hamper or tamper the prosecution witnesses or evidence, or abscond or repeat crime. His physical custody is not necessary for the purpose of investigation. Hence, he prays for pre-arrest bail. To buttress his submission he has relied upon the case of the Hon'ble Apex Court in **P. Chidambaram v. Central Bureau of Investigation**.

3. Investigating Officer and Learned A.P.P. Shri. R. V. Desai filed say at Exh.12 and 13 respectively. Both of them have strongly objected this application on the grounds that it is the case of cold blooded murder. The present applicant has not cooperated in investigation to police machinery. Applicant has actively

participated in the said crime. It reveals from CCTV footage that applicant was present with other accused in Goa in Hotel Veranda. Some other co-accused are to be arrested. Present applicant is absconding since committing crime. The applicant may hamper or tamper prosecution witnesses or evidence or abscond or repeat crime. Hence, he prays that this application be rejected.

4. It is the case of the prosecution, as alleged that, on 23.10.2025 the informant Ravindra Rajaram Gurav found an unknown person lying near Saliste village on Mumbai -Goa highway. He also found the blood stains on the shirt of lying person on his back side. Therefore, he immediately informed Kankavali Police Station. The unknown person was taken to Sub District Hospital, Kankavali, where he was declared dead. Thereafter he lodged first information report and criminal law was set into motion.

5. I have given anxious and thoughtful consideration to the aforesaid submissions. This is a case of cold blooded murder, wherein Shriniwas Reddy has been mercilessly killed by stabbing multiple knife blows by accused Manu by giving 6 to 8 blows and Vardhan by giving 8 to 10 blows on the most vital parts of the body i.e. chest, back, head etc. to grab his property. The role attributed to the present applicant/ accused 8 is that, he accompanied other accused during the period of whole incident in the Fortuner car. Accused Venkatesh Babu called accused Manu in hotel Crescent at Goa, rest of the accused persons including present applicant met there. Accused Venkatesh Bau told them that deceased Shriniwas

has various properties in crores having no legal heirs, he along with Madhusudan have brought him at Goa and he has to be killed and he needed their help to which all of them consented. During investigation it was revealed that after committing murder of Shriniwas Reddy, accused 1 to 3 came to Banda in vehicle and present applicant/accused Sujay B. came to Banda by Fortuner Car No. KA 01/ NG-0064 owned by accused Venkatesh Babu. One unclaimed car was found within the boundaries of Dodamarg Police Station. To verify whether the car has any connection with the death of the said person the Investigating Officer contacted on mobile number 9740698877 and thereupon he came to know the name of the accused Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala and his mobile numbers. On having contacted accused Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala, Investigating Officer asked him to attend Kankavali Police Station. However he sent Rupesh Murali Reddy and Saicharan Kodayya Darbar to Kankavali Police Station. Both of them identified the dead-body and stated that it was of Shriniwas Reddy. Rupesh Reddy stated to the Investigating Officer that he knows deceased Shriniwas Reddy as he worked with Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala, and deceased Shriniwas Reddy along with his mother approached Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala asking for monetary help. He further stated that Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala extended monetary assistance of an amount in crores to deceased Shriniwas Reddy and his mother. According to him, there was an offence registered against Madhusudan Siddhayya Taukala, Venkatesh Babu and the deceased of kidnapping for ransom. He also stated that to avoid arrest Madhusudan Taukala and Vyankatesh Babu left Hyderabad.

6. On 29.10.2025 accused Madhusudan disclosed during investigation the manner in which the offence was committed. His statement reveals participation of accused Venkatesh Babu in the commission of alleged offence. Thereafter one another accused namely Manu P. B. was arrested, who also disclosed his involvement. From accused Subhash Subbarayappa it is revealed that Scorpio Car belonging to Venkatesh Babu has been used in the alleged offence. During investigation it is revealed that at the relevant period present applicant/accused 8 had been to Goa and stayed at Hotel Veranda along with other accused. Investigating Officer has collected CCTV footage. The material on record clearly shows involvement of present applicant/accused 8 in the commission of the alleged offence. The authority cited supra is not applicable herein, as the principles laid down therein are in respect of regular bail and the present case is of pre-arrest.

7. Learned Advocate Shri. Shaikh for applicant/accused vehemently contends that the statement of co-accused is inadmissible and hence it cannot be relied upon. However the question of admissibility of the statement of the accused, its evidentiary value can be conveniently dealt with at the time of the trial and not at this stage. The statement of the co-accused is the link with which the Investigating Officer proceeds with the investigation to unearth the truth. Thus the statements of the arrested co-accused link the present applicant/accused with the alleged offence. The charge-sheet has been filed against some accused persons. However, some of the accused persons including the present applicant are absconding since inception.

8. In the above backdrop, It appears that the present applicant/accused 8 has actively participated in the crime. He is found in the company of co-accused persons. The offence is of serious and heinous in nature. Presence of the applicant/accused in police is necessary for the purpose of investigation. Taking into account the gravity of the offence, the role played by the applicant/accused in the commission of offence I am not inclined to release him on anticipatory bail. Hence I pass following order. -

ORDER

The application is rejected.

(Dictated and Pronounced in Open Court)

Place: Sindhudurg- Oros.
Date : 23.07.2026

(S. T. Tripathi)
Additional Session Judge-1,
Sindhudurg- Oros.